



CITY OF KIRKLAND 2023 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

General Principles

Kirkland supports legislation that promotes the City Council's goals and protects the City's ability to provide basic municipal services to its residents.

- Protect shared state revenue sources available to the City and provide new revenue options and flexibility in the use of existing revenues.
- Support the partnership between Cities and the State to ensure that critical mandates are funded, and vital services are provided to all the residents of the state.
- Support long-term sustainability efforts related to City's financial, environmental, and transportation goals.
- Support legislation that provides access to housing and increases the construction and preservation of housing supply that meets a diverse range of incomes and needs.

City of Kirkland 2023 Legislative Priorities

Kirkland supports new local funding and policy tools to create more affordable housing, such as:

- Providing exemptions to promote housing affordability, such as a property tax exemption for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) that are dedicated for occupancy by low-income people.
- A new Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) increment with new revenues dedicated to construction and preservation of affordable housing.

Kirkland supports legislation contributing to a robust behavioral health services sector, such as:

- Promoting behavioral health workforce development funding, recruitment, retention, and training.

Kirkland supports:

- Washington State legislative actions that protect an individual's right to comprehensive, safe, and accessible reproductive healthcare, including abortion. Legislative actions that are supported include, but are not limited to, proposed amendments to the Washington State and United States Constitutions, codifying the protection of these reproductive healthcare rights in state law, protecting visitors to Washington State seeking abortion healthcare, and protections for Washington State healthcare providers that provide reproductive and abortion healthcare. Kirkland further supports legislative actions codifying marriage equality.
- Gun safety measures that promote safe and responsible gun ownership and reduce gun violence and that are consistent with the 2nd Amendment of the US Constitution and Article I Section 24 of the Washington State Constitution.
- Sustainability actions that protect the natural environment and meet the needs of community members for a healthy environment and clean energy without compromising the needs of future generations.

Kirkland supports capital budget funding for:

- North King County "No Wrong Door" Behavioral Health Crisis Receiving Center serving the 1st, 45th, and 48th Legislative Districts and others in North King County
- Current Health through Housing Permanent Supportive Housing Project in the 48th Legislative District
- HAWK Crossing Beacon at 132nd Place NE/Slater Ave. NE and the Eastrail in the 45th Legislative District
- Kirkland Performance Center Rigging Replacement in the 48th Legislative District
- Bridge Crossing of Denny Creek at NE 132nd Street in the 1st Legislative District